

Preliminary Data Analysis Act 166 Year 2015-16

Definitions:

1. **Act 166:** Current legislation which provides 10 hours of high quality PreK to every 3-5 year old student in Vermont.
2. **Expansion Grant:** a federal grant which provides full school day PreK for students who meet the poverty definition.

Data Source: October 2015 Census; this data is submitted by Supervisory Unions to establish the number of students who enroll in school (at all grade levels) including demographic characteristics which drive resources through Vermont's equalized student funding formula.

Limits:

1. The October Census does not show where students participate in PreK.
2. Students may enroll or leave the school system after the October Census. This is particularly true for PreK which has a more fluid enrollment pattern than the start of the school year.

Question: How has PreK enrollment (students identified by Supervisory Unions/Districts in the October census) changed?

Finding: Enrollment in PreK has increased by 1,079 students.

Table 1: Enrollment in PreK from 2014-15 (no Act 166) to 2015-16 (Partial Implementation of Act 166 and Expansion Grant)	
School Year	Enrollment
2014-2015	6,218
2015-2016	7,297
<i>Change</i>	<i>+1,079</i>

Question: How has PreK enrollment (students identified by Supervisory Unions/Districts in the October census) changed in terms of student demographics?

Findings:

Poverty: While enrollment has increased by 1,079 students, the distribution of students in terms of Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility has not changed in the first year of Act 166 implementation. It is interesting to note in both 2014-15 and 2015-16, enrollment of students who qualify for FRL is not in proportion to those students who are eligible for FRL in grades K-3¹.

¹ In future analysis we will also be looking at whether or not the expansion grant has impacted enrollment patterns for students.

Special Education Status: While enrollment has increased by 1,079 students, the distribution of students in terms of eligibility for special education has not changed much from year to year and is relatively similar to the participation rates for grades K-3.

Race/Ethnicity: While enrollment has increased by 1,079 students, the distribution of students in terms of Caucasian/Not Caucasian has not changed much from year to year and is relatively similar to the participation rates for grades K-3.

Table 2: Enrollment in PreK and Free and Reduced Lunch Participation from 2014-15 (no Act 166) to 2015-16 (Partial Implementation of Act 166 and Expansion Grant)					
School Year		PreK		K-3	
		Not Eligible FRL	FRL Eligible	Not Eligible FRL	FRL Eligible
2014-15	#	4,366	1,915	13,769	12,961
	%	70%	31%	52%	49%
2015-16	#	5,089	2,237	13,425	10,657
	%	70%	31%	56%	44%
		No IEP	IEP	No IEP	IEP
2014-15	#	5,199	1,082	22,911	3,819
	%	83%	17%	86%	14
2015-16	#	6,165	1,161	20,643	3,439
	%	84%	16%	86%	14%
		Caucasian	Non-Caucasian	Caucasian	Non-Caucasian
2014-15	#	5,756	525	24,218	2,512
	%	92%	8%	91%	9%
2015-16	#	6,767	559	21,869	2,213
	%	92%	8%	91%	9%

Question: Where are students participating in PreK?

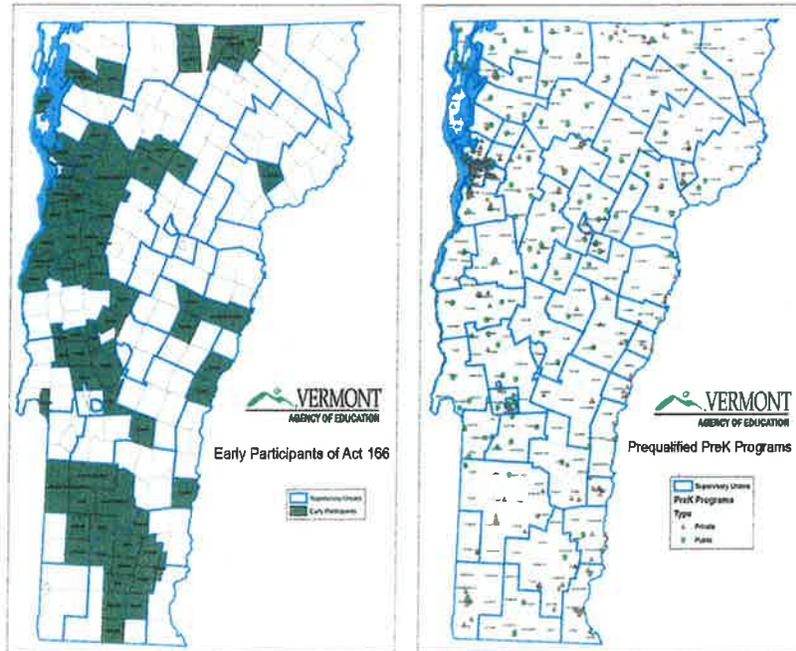
Finding: Students are enrolling in PreK in generally the same rates which they enroll in grades K-3. For example, the Northeast region comprises 11% of all PreK students and 11% of all K-3 students for Vermont. The one notable exception to this is Champlain Valley which currently enrolls 44% of all PreK students while the K-3 students are 40% of state enrollment.

Table 3: Enrollment in PreK by Region in 2015-16										
Level	Supervisory Union/Districts Regions ¹									
	Champlain Valley		Northeast		Southeast		Southwest		Winooski Valley	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
PreK	3,194	44%	827	11%	1,065	15%	945	13%	1,295	18%
K-3	9,703	40%	2,742	11%	3,585	15%	3,490	14%	4,562	19%

Question: Did enrollment in PreK differ by region and whether or not there were Early Adopters of Act 166?

Finding: Students enrolled in PreK in Champlain Valley are more likely to be in Early Adopters of Act 166 programs than programs that waited (60% compared to 32%). Students enrolled in PreK in the Northeast, Southeast and Southwest region are just as likely to be enrolled in Early adoption Programs as not. Students enrolled in PreK programs in Winooski Valley are more likely to be in programs that waited than were early adopters (25% compared to 6%). In 2015-16, the benefit of PreK 7326 enrollment through Act 166 is skewed towards Champlain Valley Supervisory Unions/Districts.

Table 4: Enrollment in PreK by Supervisory Union/District Region and Early Adoption of Act 166							
Act 166 Status		Region					
		Champlain Valley	Northeast	Southeast	Southwest	Winooski Valley	Total
Total	#	3,194	827	1,065	945	1,295	7,326
	%	44%	11%	15%	13%	18%	100%
Early Adopter	#	1,771	276	407	296	181	2,931
	%	60%	9%	14%	10%	6%	100%
Not an Early Adopter	#	1,423	551	658	649	1,114	4,395
	%	32%	13%	15%	15%	25%	100%



Question: Did enrollment in PreK differ by the structure of Supervisory Structure (District or Unions) and whether or not there were Early Adopters of Act 166?

Finding: Supervisory Districts account for 26% of all PreK enrollments, however they account for 39% of enrollments are early adoption. This suggests that Supervisory Districts enrolled a greater percentage of students in early adoption than expected. In contrast, Supervisory Unions account for 74% of all PreK enrollments, but only 61% of enrollments are in early adopter locations. This suggests that Supervisory Unions were less likely to increase enrollments through early adoption.

Table 5: Enrollment in PreK by Supervisory Union/District Supervisory Structure and Early Adoption of Act 166				
Act 166 Status		Supervisory Structure		Total
		Supervisory District	Supervisory Union	
Total	#	1,905	5,421	7,326
	%	26%	74%	
Early Adopter	#	1,153	1,778	2,931
	%	39%	61%	
Not an Early Adopter	#	752	3,643	4,395
	%	17%	83%	

Question: What is the quality of prequalified programs for Act 166?

Finding: The vast majority of programs are identified through the Stars Review Program conducted by our partners at Department for Children and Families- 78% meet quality standards of 4 and 5 Stars.

Table 6: Program Quality for Pre-Qualified Programs for Act 166				
	NAEYC Accreditation	Quality Levels		
		Not-Accredited		
		5 Stars	4 Stars	3 Stars/ approved plan
#	81	144	123	33
%	12%	42%	36%	10%
Public Provider	1	80	47	12
Private Provider	41	64	76	21

Table 7: Supervisory Union Regions

Champlain Valley	Northeast	Southeast	Southwest	Winooski Valley
ADDISON CENTRAL SU	BLUE MOUNTAIN SD	DRESDEN SD*	ADDISON RUTLAND SU	BARRE SU
ADDISON NORTHEAST SU	CALEDONIA CENTRAL SU	HARTFORD SD	BATTENKILL VALLEY SU	LAMOILLE NORTH SU
ADDISON NORTHWEST SU	CALEDONIA NORTH SU	RIVENDELL INTERSTATE SD	BENNINGTON RUTLAND SU	LAMOILLE SOUTH SU
BURLINGTON SD	ESSEX CALEDONIA SU	SPRINGFIELD SD	RUTLAND CENTRAL SU	MONTPELIER SD
CHITTENDEN CENTRAL SU	ESSEX NORTH SU	TWO RIVERS SU	RUTLAND CITY SD	ORANGE NORTH SU
CHITTENDEN EAST SU	NORTH COUNTRY SU	WINDHAM CENTRAL SU	RUTLAND NORTHEAST SU	ORANGE SOUTHWEST SU
CHITTENDEN SOUTH SU	ORANGE EAST SU	WINDHAM NORTHEAST SU	RUTLAND SOUTH SU	ORANGE WINDSOR SU
COLCHESTER SD	ORLEANS CENTRAL SU	WINDHAM SOUTHEAST SU	RUTLAND SOUTHWEST SU	ORLEANS SOUTHWEST SU
ESSEX TOWN SD	ST JOHNSBURY SD	WINDHAM SOUTHWEST SU	SOUTHWEST VERMONT SU	WASHINGTON CENTRAL SU
FRANKLIN CENTRAL SU		WINDSOR CENTRAL SU		WASHINGTON NORTHEAST SU
FRANKLIN NORTHEAST SU		WINDSOR SOUTHEAST SU		WASHINGTON SOUTH SU
FRANKLIN NORTHWEST SU				WASHINGTON WEST SU
FRANKLIN WEST SU				WINDSOR NORTHWEST SU
GRAND ISLE SU				
MILTON SD				
SOUTH BURLINGTON SD				
WINOOSKI SD				

